



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329
(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

December 22, 2009

Honorable Darrell Steinberg
California State Senate

REDACTED

RE: Advisory Letter
FPPC File No. 090794; Darrell Steinberg

Dear Senator Steinberg:

The Fair Political Practices Commission ("Commission") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act") found in Government Code Section 81000, and following. The Act requires public officials to report gifts valued at \$50 or more and further prohibits public officials from receiving gifts over a specific gift limit. (Section 89503.) Further, the Act provides that gifts that are returned unused within 30 days of receipt, are not deemed received and do not need to be reported. (Regulation 18943(a)(1).)

On your 2008 Annual Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700), you reported the receipt of a pen from Senator Don Perata in the amount of \$760, but included a footnote that the pen was returned.

In the future, should you receive a gift in excess of the applicable limit and return the gift to the donor within 30 days, it is not necessary that the gift be reported on your statement of economic interests.

If in the future you have any questions concerning your reporting obligations, please call the FPPC's Technical Assistance Division at (916) 322-5660, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please also visit our website at www.fppc.ca.gov.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (916) 322-8194.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

Jeanette E. Turvill
Political Reform Consultant
Enforcement Division

JT/jt